

REMARKS

At the time of the Office Action dated December 10, 2004, claims 1-5 were pending. Applicants acknowledge, with appreciation, the Examiner's indication that claims 2 and 3 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

In this Amendment, claims 2-5 have been amended, claim 1 cancelled, and claims 6-8 added. Care has been exercised to avoid the introduction of new matter. Specifically, claims 2 and 3 have been amended to be in independent form based on claim 1. Claims 4 and 5 have been amended to be dependent on claim 2. New claims 6 and 7 include the same recitations as those in claims 4 and 5, respectively, but depend on claim 3. Adequate descriptive support for new claim 8 can be found on, for example, page 15, line 3 to page 17, line 1 of the specification.

The specification has also been amended to correct typographic oversights. For example, the title of the invention has been amended to replace the word "SUPPRESS" with --"SUPPRESS--.

It is submitted that the rejection of claims 1, 4 and 5 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) evidenced by Itoh has been rendered moot by cancellation of claim 1 and amendment of claims 4 and 5 to be dependent on claim 2. Applicants, therefore, respectfully solicit withdrawal of the rejection and favorable consideration thereof.

Further, Applicants submit that new claim 8 is not anticipated by Itoh because the reference does not disclose, among other things, that a second detection circuit is "activated by the output signal of the first detection circuit or the output signal of the second detection signal." Itoh's amplifier 1 is not configured to be activated by its own output. Therefore, Applicants respectfully solicit favorable consideration of new claim 8.

Application No.: 10/702,543

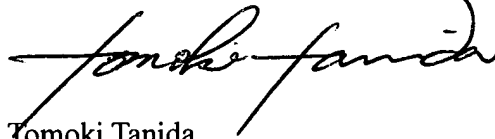
Moreover, new claims 6 and 7 are also patentable because those claims depend on allowable claim 3 which is now in independent form.

Accordingly, it is urged that the application is in condition for allowance, an indication of which is respectfully solicited. If there are any outstanding issues that might be resolved by an interview or an Examiner's amendment, Examiner is requested to call Applicants' attorney at the telephone number shown below.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 500417 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

McDERMOTT WILL & EMERY LLP

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tomoki Tanida", written over a horizontal line.

Tomoki Tanida

Recognition under 37 C.F.R. 10.9(b)

600 13th Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20005-3096
Phone: 202.756.8000 SAB:TT
Facsimile: 202.756.8087
Date: March 7, 2005

**Please recognize our Customer No. 20277
as our correspondence address.**

WDC99 1024188-1.067162.0029